

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/033970 A1

- [Continued on next page]*

The diagram illustrates the SIP Proxy Server architecture. A central SIP Proxy Server (12a) acts as the hub. On the left, a User (10a) is represented by a laptop and a mobile phone (10b). The user interacts with the server through a SIP User Agent (10c) and Search Software Module 1 (10d). The server sends 'Forward request' messages to the user. On the right, the server interacts with Search Software Module 2 (12b) and Search Software Module 3 (12c). Module 2 sends 'Re-configures Request using: Preferences, Past results, User location' to the server. Module 3 sends 'Speech <-> text' to the server. The server also interacts with a Web Server (14a) via HTTP, a Search Engine or Database (14b), and a Phone (14c). An 'Advertise Services' box is also shown near the server.

(57) Abstract: A method of purchasing an item, the method enabling a user to search for information on the cost of an item on a distributed computer system, the method comprising: generating a search request for the item at a user terminal; modifying the search request to indicate at least one user preference; forwarding the search request to a server adapted to retrieve data from the distributed computer system, the server adapted to provide a search result to a user terminal selected in accordance with a predetermined user preference dependent on the extent to which the search result conforms with the search request, whereby the user is able to purchase the item at the cost informed by the search result.



Published:

— *with international search report*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.